

Patent  
Attorney Docket: WHIT/0022

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification with the following replacement paragraphs.

[006] ~~FIG.~~ Figure 1 is a full color photographic view of my new hibiscus plant in full flower in Oklahoma.

[007] ~~FIG.~~ Figure 2 is a full color photographic view of a flower of the plant shown in ~~FIG.~~ Figure 1.

[008] ~~FIG.~~ Figure 3 is a full color photographic view of the range of leaf sizes and shapes found on a typical specimen of my new hardy hibiscus plant.

[009] ~~FIG.~~ Figure 4 is a full color photographic view of the original specimen of the present invention, shown in the field for size comparison to typical seedlings from the same parent and of the same age as my new hardy hibiscus plant.

[011] 'WHIT XX' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. It is to be understood that the phenotype may vary significantly with variations in environment such as soils, temperature, light intensity, and length of day, without any difference in the genotype of the plant. The following botanical characteristics and observations are taken from the plant when grown under normal outdoor conditions in north central Oklahoma. The described plant was three years old and was planted in a three gallon container. Plants grown in one gallon or three gallon containers for one year exhibited no change in characteristics.

[014] Origin: Seedling An open pollination of an unnamed female hibiscus plant and an unknown male hibiscus plant.

[015] Parentage: The parent plant was about seven to nine feet tall and produced pink flowers that were about eight to eleven inches in diameter. The parent plant had a loose, open growth in north central Oklahoma. The parent plant, destroyed in a fire, was an unnamed hibiscus plant.

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[026] Leaf Petiole: The leaf petiole is between about one 1 and about 2.5 inches long. The color, when exposed to full sun, is approximately RHS 182-B. The color when not exposed to full sun is approximately RHS 191-A or B or RHS 152-A or B.

[028] Stems: The stems are stout with limited flex. The stem diameters at or near the soil line range from between about 0.5 and about 1.5 inches. Stem growth starts in the spring and extends continuously with no nodes until the plant's full height is reached. Flowering then begins.

[033] Flower Size, Fragrance and Lastingness: The flowers have a diameter of between about 3.5 and about six inches and have a depth of between about 1 and about 3 inches. The flowers have no fragrance and each flower lasts for one day.

[036] Color of Petals: The blade of petals is approximately RHS 187-A or B when the flower first opens. A few hours after opening, the color of the blade of the petals lightens to RHS 187-B or C or 59-A or B. The color of the upper and lower petal surfaces are identical.

[037] Shape of Individual Petal: Broadly obovate. The petal apex is slightly wavering or undulating and the base and side margin is smooth.

[041] Number of Stamens and pistils: Many There are many stamens. Typically, there are 5 pistils but occasionally, only 3 or 4.

[046] Sepals: There are five sepals that are fused at the base to make a cup-like calyx, subtended by an epicalyx of between about 10 and about 18 bracts. The tips of the sepals are lanceolate. The sepals are typically between about 1.5 and about 2.5 inches long. Individual bracts are quite variable but typically range from between about one-half and about 2.5 inches long and between about one-eighth and about one-fourth inch wide. The color of the sepals and bracts range from between about RHS 147 A or B when the plant is in full sun and about RHS 191 A or B when shaded.